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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Office of Current Intelligence
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INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

The India-Pakistan Situation

(Report #61 - As of 6:00 A.M. EDT)

1. Pakistan announced acceptance of the UN cease-fire proposal at a dramatic last-minute Security Council meeting last night. Pakistani Foreign Minister Bhutto, announced Pakistani acceptance as the 3:00 A.M. UN deadline was reached. India had already accepted the UN proposal, but the Indian delegate to the UN asked that a new time be set for the cease-fire to become effective in the light of Pakistan's delay in announcing its position. The Security Council later announced that the deadline was extended 15 hours until 6:00 P.M. EDT.

2. Bhutto said Pakistan was giving the UN a "last chance" to settle the Kashmir question and stated that Pakistan would withdraw from the organization if it does not do so.

3. Prior to Bhutto's announcement, the US Embassy in Karachi reported that Ayub Khan would have trouble with Pakistani public opinion if a cease-fire was announced. The Embassy noted that to some extent Ayub is a prisoner of the propaganda carried in the controlled Pakistani press in the past several days, but that public opinion in Pakistan is subject to rapid shifts in sentiment. The Pakistani president will address his nation at 6:30 A.M. EDT.

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4. The US Embassy in Rawalpindi felt that the last 24 hours was a crucial determinant of the US position in Pakistan. If the government did not agree to a cease-fire, already heightened popular passions may have been aroused to the extent that the immediate evacuation of all US personnel would be necessary.

5. Replying to Peking's broadcast last night claiming that the Indians had attempted to destroy their old military works along the Sikkim border, the Indians have stated that none of their forces have crossed the Sikkim-Tiber border and that if the installations were destroyed, the demolition must have been done by the Chinese themselves. The Indians have also handed the Chinese a note protesting "unprovoked and aggressive" Chinese activities along the Indian-Chinese border.

6. Peking has yet made no comment on the Pakistani acceptance of the UN cease-fire proposal.

7. There was apparently no significant change in the battle lines at Sialkot, Wagah, or Kasur yesterday and press reports state that fighting was at close to a standstill. However, Ayub, in a conversation with Ambassador McConaughy shortly before Bhutto's announcement of the cease-fire in the UN, claimed that the Indians had mounted a new offensive on all fronts, adding that this action made Pak acceptance of the UN terms even more difficult. Ayub, when pressed, was vague about details of this new "offensive." There is no confirmation that the Indians in fact opened new drives on any of the fronts.

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